

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NSCE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 IO-04

CU-02 ACDA-05 /067 W

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R 310333Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2694

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: NATIONAL MEDIA PIECES STRESS OPPOSITE OF UNITY

SUMMARY. A RED FLAG ARTICLE LASHED OUT AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD OPPOSE A LEGALIST CLIQUE AROUND THE "EMPEROR," AND CRITICIZED REGIONAL OPPOSITION TO CENTRAL AUTHORITY. TWO PEOPLE'S DAILY PIECES ELABORATED EVEN MORE HARSHLY ON THESE SCHEMES, CALLING FOR REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE AND QUICK SUPPRESSION OF CLASS ENEMIES. END SUMMARY.

1. AN ARTICLE IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF RED FLAG, EMPLOYING THE TECHNIQUE OF HISTORICAL ALLEGORY, WARNED AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES WHO ADVOCATE "RIDDING THE EMPEROR OF HIS BAD MINISTERS" IN A MALICIOUS ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW CHAIRMAN MAO'S REVOLUTIONARY LINE. THE ARTICLE, ON THE CONFUCIAN-LEGALIST STRUGGLE DURING THE CHIN AND HAN DYNASTIES, ASSERTED THAT IT WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE MAINTENANCE OF A "LEGALIST LEADING GROUP" AT THE CENTER

WHICH KEPT THE WESTERN HAN DYNASTY IN POWER. THIS WAS BORNE OUT FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF THE FIRST HAN EMPEROR, WHEN HIS WIFE AND SUCCESSOR, THE EMPRESS LU (READ CHIANG CHING) ADHERED TO THE CORRECT LEGALIST LINE.

2. THE ARTICLE ALSO CASTIGATED REGIONAL AUTHORITIES WHO, THROUGH THE MILITARY POWER AT THEIR COMMAND, TRIED TO RESIST CENTRAL AUTHORITY. THIS THEME WAS PICKED UP EVEN MORE STRONGLY IN PEOPLE'S DAILY OCTOBER 15 WHEN AN ADVISER TO ONE FORMER EMPEROR WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT IT WAS BEST TO SUPPRESS THE "DUCAL PRINES" AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AN ARTICLE IN THE OCTOBER 18 PEOPLE'S DAILY, ELABORATING ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY FORCES AND THEIR TACTICS, STATED THAT THEY OFTEN EITHER PASSIVELY ACQUIESCE TO A NEW REGIME WHILE WAITING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO COUNTERATTACK, OR SUPPORT THE NEW RULE IN NAME BUT OPPOSE IT IN ACTUALITY. THE ARTICLE EXHORTED THE REVOLUTIONARY CLASS TO GRASP FIRMLY REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE AND RESOLUTELY STRIKE AT CLASS ENEMIES.

3. COMMENT. THESE PIECES IN THE NATIONAL MEDIA RUN COUNTER TO THE PREVAILING PROPAGANDA EFFORT ESPOUSING UNITY. WITH MAO NOW TRAVELING, IT APPEARS THAT AN ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE TO RESOLVE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES BOTH AT THE CENTER AND BETWEEN THE CENTER AND THE PROVINCES (HONG KONG 11174). PERHAPS THIS IS DUE TO THE JOCKEYING FOR POSITIONAL POWER AS THE CONVENING OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DRAWS NEAR. IN ANY EVENT, THE ARTICLES SUGGEST THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD PREFER PURGE AND STRUGGLE RATHER THAN UNITY AT THIS POINT.
CROSS

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